The New-York Times.

VOL. VII.....NO. 2067. NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1858. PRICE TWO CENTS.

IMPORTANT FROM WASHINGTON

CONGRESSIONAL CORRUPTION.

The $67,000 Expended to Aid in Passage of the Tariff of 1857.

Report of the Investigating Committee.

Interesting Proceedings in both Houses.

The Ocean Mail Service—The New-York Appropriation Stricken Out of the Naval Bill—

New Policy of the Opposition—

The Indian Bureau, &c.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, May 27.

In the House of Representatives, to-day, the Select Committee, appointed to inquire into the expenditure of money for the purpose of influencing the passage of the Tariff of 1857, by the Thirty-Fourth Congress, submitted the following

REPORT:

That the powers and duties of this Committee were defined by the resolution under which they were appointed, which reads as follows:

Resolved, That a Committee of five members be appointed to investigate the charges preferred against the passage of any act or acts of Congress by LAWRENCE, SEARS & CO.; or any person; and report the facts and evidence in the case, with such opinion as may be expedient for the action of the House, with authority to send for persons and papers.

The Committee organized on the 26th day of January, A. D. 1858, and afterward, to wit, on the 27th day of the same month, in pursuance of a resolution of the House, appointed J. B. SCHERMAN, Esq., their clerk and Sergeant-at-Arms.

The Committee, acting upon the belief that the action of the House in instituting the investigation had been based mainly upon the published report of a Committee of the stockholders of the Middlesex Manufacturing Company, referred to that paper for information as to the proper starting point in making the investigation with which they were charged. We then learned that RICHARD B. FAY, Jr., had acted as the Secretary of that Committee, that the investigation had been mainly conducted, and the report prepared by him. Some of the members of the Committee were personally cognizant of the fact that W. W. PERCE, a member of the firm of LAWRENCE, SEARS & Co., had spent a considerable portion of his time during the last session of Congress in this city, urging the passage of the tariff of 1857. Believing from these circumstances, that the testimony of these gentlemen would not fail to give the Committee information which would be very important for the purpose of investigating the line of investigation which it would be proper to pursue, if for no other purpose,) they were summoned, and appeared before the Committee on the 28th day of January, A. D. 1858.

In this the Committee were not mistaken. The testimony of these gentlemen satisfied the Committee at once that Mr. JOHN W. WOLCOTT, of Boston, was the active agent in the disbursement of the money that had been advanced for the purpose of influencing the action of Congress upon the passage of the bill. He doubt was entertained that if his testimony could be obtained, that he would furnish a full and satisfactory explanation of the whole matter.

Mr. WOLCOTT was accordingly summoned, and appeared before the Committee. But, (as the House is already aware,) he refused, at the very threshold of his examination, to answer the questions propounded to him by the Committee. It was at once apparent to the Committee that unless he could be compelled to testify, the investigation would lead to no satisfactory result. In the absence of the testimony of Mr. WOLCOTT the Committee have resorted to such other sources of information as were accessible to them, and have succeeded in collecting facts which throw much light upon the subject, though they do not present as full and satisfactory an account of the ultimate destination of the entire sum advanced for the purpose of influencing the action of Congress, as was desirable. The testimony is more voluminous than was necessary to establish the facts proved. This has resulted partly from the unwillingness of some of the witnesses to testify to all they know, and hence it became necessary to resort to cross-examinations and partly from the fact that the examinations were oral, and conducted somewhat irregularly by the several members of the Committee. Hence there is much repetition and some irrelevant matter which might very well have been omitted, if the Committee had felt at liberty to omit any part of the evidence.

Under the resolution of the House directs the Committee to "report the evidence," they have judged it proper not to withhold any part of it. The Committee propose to give a summary of the facts proved, so far as they come within the range of the inquiry committed to them by the House. The firm of LAWRENCE, SEARS & Co. was composed of SAMUEL LAWRENCE, W. W. SEARS, JAMES SEARS, O. H. PERRY and HENRY JENKINS. Its principal place of business was in Boston, with a branch in New-York, where a large share of its business was transacted. Messrs. LAWRENCE, SEARS and PERRY were the Boston partners, and Messrs. STONE and JENKINS had charge of the New-York house. "The Middlesex Manufacturing Company" is a corporation created by the laws of Massachusetts, with a capital of one million of dollars, engaged in manufacturing woolen goods. The "Bay State Mills" is a corporation of the same kind, created in the same way, with the same amount of capital, and engaged in the same kind of business. SAMUEL LAWRENCE was the Treasurer of both of these corporations, and the firm of LAWRENCE, SEARS & Co. their selling agents. All the goods manufactured by the companies went into the hands of LAWRENCE, SEARS & Co., were sold by them, and the proceeds accounted for and paid to SAMUEL LAWRENCE, Treasurer.

The business of the Boston house was managed by Messrs. LAWRENCE & SEARS, Mr. PERRY's business being at the mills, and not at the country house. Hence Mr. PERRY seemed not to have been in any way connected with the matters which the Committee have been endeavoring to investigate. The New-York house seems to have been mainly under the control of Mr. STONE, and Mr. JENKINS does not seem to have had any direct connection with the matters that have been brought to the attention of the Committee.

It appears from the evidence that the manufacturers of woolen goods, having for several years past complained of obtaining any legislative protection, by an increase of duties on woolens, have been seeking to accomplish the same result, by reducing the duties on wool, dye-stuffs, and other raw materials, that were used in their manufactures. To this end they have been diligently engaged in collecting and publishing such statistics and arguments as they considered proper. In this way a small amount of money was expended prior to the commencement of the last session of Congress. At the last session a vigorous and concerted effort was made. Mr. STONE spent most of the Winter here. In justice to Mr. STONE, however, it is proper to say that there is no evidence that he was personally engaged in using any corrupt means with members of Congress. His labors seem to have consisted mainly in endeavoring to convince members from the wool-growing States, that reducing the duties on foreign wool would increase the price of wool grown in the United States. It is not strange that he should have had indifferent success in this enterprise. The manufacturers were not disposed to rest the success of their enterprise solely upon such influences as these.

The evidence satisfies the Committee that Mr. WOLCOTT was sent here, and authorized to pledge any amount of money, and to use any means, however corrupt, to secure the success of the measure. He doubtless had such means to have had any considerable sum of money here with him. And from all the evidence in the case, the Committee are inclined to the opinion that he was only authorized to promise the payment of money, in the event of the success of the measure. It is proved that $74,000 was paid to Mr. WOLCOTT soon after the adjournment of the last session of Congress, by LAWRENCE, SEARS & Co. evidently for the purpose of fulfilling his alleged promises and understandings, made during the Session, to secure the passage of the tariff. This was in addition to some $500 advanced for expenses during the session. The proofs do not show that he ever paid a dollar of this sum for the purpose for which it was advanced, with the exception of $4,000 to Gen. ASHMUN, of Massachusetts.

Whether he falsely represented to LAWRENCE, SEARS & Co. that he made promises which required this sum to enable him to meet, or whether he had in fact made promises which he afterwards failed to comply with, may be matter of controversy; but there is no doubt that he obtained somebody, and appropriated pretty nearly the whole of this vast sum to his own use. It was all paid to him during the month of March, 1857. The first payment was by a draft drawn by the Boston house upon the New-York house, dated March 11, 1857, for $30,000. The next was made on the 12th of March, and was paid by Mr. STONE in negotiable paper and a check upon the Metropolitan Bank, New-York, and amounted to $37,000. On the 14th March he was paid the further sum of $10,061 17 by Mr. STONE. On the 16th or 16th of March he was paid by Mr. SEARS, in Boston, $10,000, making in the aggregate $74,000.

In addition to this $6,000 was paid through Mr. SEARS' house to THURLOW WEED, of Albany; and $6,117 of was paid to the New-York house to various persons, in comparatively small sums.

This makes an aggregate of $87,117 98, which is the whole amount found on the books of LAWRENCE, SEARS & Co. charged to the expenses incurred in the passage of the tariff of 1857.

The following statement, by the New-York house, of items was paid to H. M. STONE, Editor of Journal of Commerce.....$2,000

" " " "

The New-York Times, Friday, May 14, 1920.

The New-York Times, Friday, May 25, 1860

Police Intelligence.

THOMAS KEWING, Jr.

BOUNTIANS ON A NEW DODGE—CAUTION TO BOUNTYSEEKERS.—Bounties it appears are never at a loss to devise a new dodge for raising the wind as soon as the last successful one is exhausted. The latest trick is to leave packages done up in neat boxes at the doors of private residences during business hours, containing private advertisements of New-York, and will send you a line, if stranded. I am making it a case *que* you that he is all right. Any one sending the above will receive by return mail the following certified copies of two letters written by Mr. Alexander, and which were produced upon that occasion:

NEW-YORK, ——, 1860.

I am a great hurry to meet M., about next arrangement in New-York, and will send you a line, as soon as we meet. This box is directed to you, and I am sure you can take care of it. Yours truly,

ALEXANDER.

NEW-YORK, ——, 1860.

DEAR SIR: I am sorry that I am not present to receive the box, but I have left it with a friend of mine, who will call and see you for it. Please to hand him the box, and oblige yours truly,

ALEXANDER.

Mr. ——, Boston.

The box is handed to the lady, who pays the charges upon it and then carefully lays it aside till the husband comes home. The husband opens the box, when he sees the following letter, which he reads:

BOSTON, ——, 1860.

DEAR SIR: I am sorry that I am not present to receive the box, but I have left it with a friend of mine, who will call and see you for it. Please to hand him the box, and oblige yours truly,

ALEXANDER.

Mr. ——, Boston.

The husband opens the box, when he sees a number of the Boston company. You will never be able to find out who they are. I may mention, however, that the box contains a quantity of brown paper, and both letters are written by the same person. Any one can take a hint.

Grand Jury Room, ——, 1860.

I am, A. H. DAVENPORT.

YOUR OWN LETTER ARRANGEMENT.

(Copy.) HARPER & CROSMAN, Clerks.

Time is all I have to say upon this matter, until the box arrives.

Yours, &c., A. H. DAVENPORT.

Grand Jury Room, ——, 1860.

Mr DAVENPORT, Dear Sir: I shall over to Hackensack to-day, and only awaits your presence to accompany me. I shall expect you without fail. Yours truly,

A. H. DAVENPORT.

KEEP CLEAR OF THE MAYOR'S OFFICE.

(Copy.) HARPER & CROSMAN, Clerks.

118 East Thirty-third-street, and a ball for $3 per week. The ball being made out in the name of the Troy Steamboat Company, and receipted by "G. Rowe." Mr. ——, supposing it was all right, paid the amount of the bill, when the box being opened by Mr. Rowe, they found in the box being opened by her husband, a letter directed to the Mayor, and having the words "Grand Jury Room" written upon it, and also a box containing a pair of

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THE MAYOR AT ALBANY.—We are pained to learn that the Mayor has been confined to his bed for several days past with a severe attack of his old complaint, the gout. Mr. HARRY HOWARD has left for Albany to attend to the Mayor's business.

THE CITY CONSOLIDATION.

Mr. DAVENPORT, Dear Sir: I have been informed by my attorney that $500 was to be paid to Mr. DAVENPORT. I never authorized him to do so, and I do not intend to pay it. I have been informed by Mr. DAVENPORT that he has paid it for me, and I have to say that I will not be responsible for it. I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

[Copy] HARPER & CROSMAN, Clerks.

Grand Jury Room, ——, 1860.

Mr DAVENPORT, Dear Sir: I have been informed by my attorney that $500 was to be paid to Mr. DAVENPORT. I never authorized him to do so, and I do not intend to pay it.

The New-York Daily Times.
FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1852.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

FOREIGN—Arrival of the Pacific at Liverpool—Latest from Europe—Affairs in Spain—Progress of the Revolution—Movements of Louis Napoleon—Affairs in Portugal—Arrival of the Cambria at Queenstown

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THIS DELIGHTFUL RESORT, situated on the Jamaica Railroad, 7 miles from the City Hall, will be open for the season on Monday, May 23d. Omnibuses will leave the City Hall every hour during the day, and every half hour in the evening. Fare 25 cents.
WOOD'S ORCHESTRA.
JOSEPH WOOD, Proprietor.

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WANTED—A SITUATION AS COOK, WASHER and Ironer, by a respectable girl. No objection to go a short distance in the country. Inquire of Mrs. Grant, Grand Avenue, Astoria, L. I.
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WANTED—A SITUATION TO ATTEND CHILDREN, and assist in light housework. Has no objection to travel. Apply for 3 days, at No. 61 East 13th-st., up stairs.
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WANTED—A SITUATION BY A YOUNG WOMAN to do housework in a small family. Has been used to cooking. Inquire at No. 105 Mercer-st., between Prince and Houston-sts.
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